



"LO A
VOICE FROM
HEAVEN"



MATT. 28:19.

The Church of God Evangel



MARK 16:15

CLEVELAND, TENN.

GOD & LOVE

THE
PILLAR

THE
TRUTH

They presented gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. — Matthew 2:11.

Thou who givest all to all
At thy feet we humbly fall
On thy gladsome giving-day
We give ourselves—and carry
Thee away!



THE GROUND OF

EPH. 2:20

1 TIM. 3:15

Vol. 30, No. 42

Merry Christmas to All

Dec. 23, 1939

NOTICES

From the Field

TO the Sunday Schools and Y. P. E.'s of Virginia: Both the Sunday School and Y. P. E. banners were won by Radford for the month of November. This is the first time both banners have been won by any church in this state. Brother A. W. Brummett has been appointed state Y. P. E. and Sunday School superintendent. I will send you his address soon or have him to do so in time to send in your next report.

I enjoyed working with you the past year and hope you will give the new superintendent the same cooperation that you gave me, or even better if possible. I am state music teacher of Virginia now and am depending on you pastors of this state to stand by me. I have no other work or support. Get in touch with me and arrange your singing school in time.—W. H. Ward, Box 375, Pulaski, Va.

I am open for revivals anywhere. For reference write J. L. Dorman, overseer of Mississippi, and T. C. Wiggins, Rt. 2, Radford, Va.—L. B. Lyon, Rt. 1, Fosters Falls, Va.

Special notice to the Sunday Schools and Y. P. E.'s of Mississippi: Please notify me at once as to the whereabouts of the state banners.—State Sunday School and Y. P. E. superintendent, Arlie Dorman, 1108 River Ave., Hattiesburg, Miss.

I have one hundred copies of the Evangel which I will give to anyone for the asking who will pay the postage on them.—E. L. Breckenridge, Rt. 1, Myrtlewood, Ala.

I am no longer clerk of the Church of God at Coconut Grove, Fla., having resigned my position as such.—R. E. Lowry, 2103 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Coral Gables, Fla.

Anyone having back issues of the Evangel of September 2 issue, please send me a card as to how many you have and I will pay you for them, as I have requests for them from various ones for a certain healing message in same. Thank you.—Mary E. Wright, Box 25, Blackton, Ark.

To whom it may concern: My address is changed from 2001 Small Ave., Selma, Ala. to Rt. 1, Springville, Ala.—C. F. Barrett.

To the Y. P. E. and Sunday School workers of Alabama: We surely thank

you for your cooperation in reporting promptly and on time. *Come on*, you who are not reporting and fall in line with us and let's put Alabama over the top. Watch us, we're coming to the "front" by the help of the Lord.

The Sunday School banner was won by Anniston for the month of November by an increase of ninety-five. The Y. P. E. banner was won by Sumiton by an increase of one hundred seven. Come on and work for the banners. Your time may

20

YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Headline in the Evangel: *It is Wise to Search for Jesus at Christmas Time.* Jesus can always be found by those who are wise.

A poem in the Evangel:
Oh, let the glad bells ring
And let the children shout;
Who would prevent the glee
And shut the spirit out?

Come, one and all, this Christmas Day
And let the praises ring;
Tell others of a Savior born,
And of Him talk and sing.

There is a joy at Christmas time
That does not come at any other;
It brings a blessed cheer at home,
And to many a thought of mother.

The gifts and blessings of the day
Are always bringing pleasure,
And are reminders of the time
When the wise men opened their treasure.

Then let us ever revere His name
Who was born in Bethlehem,
And sing the song the angels sang
And say, "Good will toward men."

Then glory, glory to our King
On this glad Christmas Day;
The name so sweet does sweeter grow
While in this world we stay.

Another headline in the Evangel:
Probably More Than 300 Churches Will Hold Watch Night Service.

From an obituary: On October 25, 1919, the death angel visited the home of Brother and Sister Grimes and took the mother, aged sixty-eight years. She was a member of the Baptist church. Just before she died she shouted and sang "Sweet Hour of Prayer."

be next.—T. G. Pearson, state superintendent, Box 97, Pratt City, Ala.

To those desiring to correspond with me, my permanent address will be 13 N. Jackson St., Mobile, Ala.—James L. Slay, Jr.

To whom it may concern: My address has been changed from Rt. 1, Star, Miss. to 20 Elm St., Natchez, Miss.—D. G. Bozeman.

ON THE AIR

Bible Training School over station WNOX, Knoxville, 1010 Kc., 6:00-6:30 a. m. each Saturday.

Church of God, over station WBTH, Williamson, W. Va. 2:00 p. m. each Sunday. H. H. Tygart, Vulcan, W. Va. and W. H. Compton, Box 153, Delbarton, W. Va., district overseers, in charge. Write us and tell us how you like the programs.

The Church of God, N. Chattanooga, Tenn. over station WAPO, each Wednesday evening at 8:30. J. D. Wilson, pastor.

Lindale and Rome, Georgia, churches: W. T. Nelson and S. W. Latimer, pastors. Monday, 10:30 a. m., WRGA, 1500 Kc.

Lindale, Georgia, church: W. T. Nelson, pastor. Saturday, 10:30 a. m., WRGA, 1500 Kc.

The Church of God, Decatur, Ala., over station WMSL, Decatur, Ala., 1370 Kc., Sunday 8:45 a. m. and each week day at 4:30 p. m. A. H. Batts, pastor.

The Church of God Y.P.E., Big Spring, Tex., over station KBST, Big Spring, Tex., each Sunday at 2:00-2:15 p. m. Sister Briggs, president; W. W. Smethers, pastor.

The Church of God, Huntsville, Ala., over station WBHP, Huntsville. Each Sunday from 9:30 a. m. to 10:00 a. m. Claude Gossett, pastor.

The Church of God of the Canton-Akron, Ohio districts, over station WADC, every Sunday at 8:00-8:30 a. m.

Mobile, Ala. district, over station WMOB, 1200 Kc., Monday through Friday at 10:00-10:15 a. m. C. T. Dunn, district pastor.

The Church of God, Hobbs, N. Mex. over station KWEW, 1500 Kc., Hobbs. Each Sunday afternoon from 3:00-3:30. H. E. Ramsey, overseer of New Mexico and Colorado.

The Church of God, Casper, Wyo. over station WKFN, Casper. Every Tuesday at 3:30 p. m. (Mountain Standard Time.) S. M. Pearson, pastor.

Souls Blessed in Revival

CHERRY VALLEY, Ark.—I praise the Lord for the way He is still blessing at Sharpe's Chapel. We had a three weeks' revival this summer with Brother Heaton doing the preaching. God blessed and many souls came to the altar who had never done so before. Several were saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and the saints were blessed. At the close of the revival eight were added to the church. We love Brother Heaton and his good wife.

Praise the Lord for healing our son of tonsillitis the last night of the revival. He hasn't had it since. I have a brother who is in bad health and unsaved. Please pray that God will save and heal him. I feel like God has great things in store for us this year. Pray for us at Sharpe's Chapel that many souls will be saved this year.—Mrs. Bertha Sharpe.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL



A Savior Is Born

BY JOSEPH TERLIZZI



Our text is found in the Gospel of Christ according to St. Luke, chapter two, verse eleven, "*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*"

THE birth of Jesus Christ was supernatural. Unlike any other birth, Mary for His mother, God for His Father. Therefore, He is the only begotten Son of God the Father.

Angels sang the "Glory Eccelsis" and shepherds left their flocks and went to see Him who was born to save His people from their sins. Wise men of the East saw His star and crossed the sandy desert to the far off distant Hoi Land to see the Babe of Bethlehem, God manifested in the flesh, He who was born King of kings and Lord of lords, He who shall be the Governor of the whole earth.

His life was a miracle, sinless and holy, the Only One without a fault or stain. He never let fall from His lips an idle word, absolutely innocent as a Babe and as a man, the most spiritual and perfect man that ever lived.

Little children crowded around Him, looked into His divine face, felt the gentle touch of His hand, received His benediction.

Centurions and military men, men hard and cold on the field of battle, fell prostrate before Him and asked Him to heal their sick loved ones. Rulers came asking Him to raise their dead children to life again. The widow in the funeral procession received her only son alive again. Women with incurable diseases crouched behind Him touching the border of His garment and were made every whit whole. Demon-possessed men, looking, saw Him, heard His voice, returned home clothed in their right mind. Unclean lepers cried unto Him, and they were cleansed. Blind men on the highway cried out, "Thou son of David, have mercy on us," and saw the light of day. Rich men came to Him; touching their lives He commanded them to give their all to feed the poor. Scholars approached Him at the midnight hour, and recognized He was God. Scarlet women of the underworld came to Him and He changed them into evangelists and they changed a whole city. Doctors of the law wondered at Him. Publicans and sinners drew near Him. He received all, loved all, forgave all.

He had but to speak, and the winds

and waves obeyed Him. At the sound of His voice deaf ears were unstopped, the dumb's tongues were loosed, blind eyes opened. He had but to command and the paralyzed leaped for joy and walked. He had but to take the small loaves and two small fishes and He fed five thousand men, besides women and children. He had but to look upon the water and it blushed to wine, and stand before the silent tomb and call the dead to life again. The Miracle Man, the same yesterday, today and forever.

The Son of God came to bring comfort to the disconsolate. He came to be a father to the fatherless, a husband to



the widow. He came to bring hope to the despairing, life to the dead, riches to the poor, liberty to the captive, bread to the hungry, clothing to the naked, righteousness for a garment to wrap around the returning prodigal, sandals for sore and bleeding feet, judgment for the oppressor. In a word, a Savior has come to the lost sinner.

He died a supernatural death. "No man taketh my life from me, I lay it down of myself, and if I lay it down, I will take it up again on the third day." He died as no man could ever die, as only God in human form could die. For once in the end of the age He came to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself upon the altar of the cross, died to be the propitiation for our sins, died to redeem a

lost world unto Himself.

*"Suffering shame and scoffing rude,
In my stead condemned He stood,
Sealed my pardon with His blood,
Hallelujah, what a Savior."*

His resurrection was supernatural. "Come see the place where the Lord lay, behold the linen clothes, see the folded napkin, look into the empty tomb." That is the unquestionable testimony that He was more than a man, He was indeed God.

Way back yonder hundreds of years before He came into the world, Micah the prophet said, "But thou Bethlehem, Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel."

What a contrast! The Son of God stood before Pilate, the Roman governor, who pronounced the death sentence. And here is the contrast. "But of thee shall be a Governor; that shall rule all my people." Matthew 2:6b. Again we read where all the nations shall stand before Him, and where every knee shall bow before Him and every tongue shall confess that He that was born of Mary, the One who stood before the governor of Rome, that He is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. On earth a prisoner before a Roman governor, in glory nations bow before Him. On earth crowned with thorns, in glory crowned with praise of the redeemed. On earth a servant, in glory a King. On earth weeping, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; in glory, on His throne, rejoicing with His bride. On earth known as the carpenter of Nazareth, the penniless and homeless man of Galilee, in glory He sits on the throne with the wealth of the kings of the earth laid at His feet. Men have argued and disputed through the ages who Jesus is. Napoleon, a prisoner on the rock-bound coast of St. Helena, surrounded by a few friends who were atheists—they argued—Napoleon said: "Bertrand, who is Jesus? The man the world calls great—Alexander the great, men died for him by the thousands; Caesar led his legions to the remotest corner of the earth; Hannibal scaled the Alps invading Italy; Charlemagne stretched his empire from shore to shore; and I, I had but to command and men would die for me—but where are we, you and I, who will die for me now, a prisoner bound on this little island—but Jesus? He marshalled no armies. He built

(Continued on page 15)

The Church of God Evangel

Official Organ of the Church of God. Published weekly by
The CHURCH OF GOD PUBLISHING HOUSE
Cleveland, Tennessee

E. L. SIMMONS, Editor and Publisher Phone 21

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: Zeno C. Tharp, Sam C. Perry,
J. H. Ingram, F. W. Lemons, Joseph Terlizzi, B. L. Hicks

SUBSCRIPTION RATE:

One year, \$1.25; six months, 65c; single copy, 5c

Entered as second-class matter March 1, 1910, Cleveland,
Tenn. under act March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at
special rate postage provided for in section 1103, Act of Oct.
3, 1917. Authorized August 23, 1918.



Good Tidings FOR many months nations have lain in the grip of anxiety, anxiety to know just what is coming next, to be able to read something or hear something of the latest conflicts in Europe, tidings, news, something not heard of before. Perhaps this is because of the fact that international hate, racial hate, and class hate is fostered in so many places. One can hardly tell just what is coming next. Many of the uprisings in Europe have been blamed on the admixture of different peoples and races, but what about here in our own America? There are perhaps no people in all the world that are more mixed than we. We have all races, tongues, and colors. Our mighty stream of life has been fed by every human fountain upon the earth so that we cannot fear or hate German, English, French, or Italians, without fearing and hating ourselves. The majority of us do not know who we are.

Certainly we must remember that we are all human beings and that we are all creatures of God and when, in remembering this, we long for tidings, we may claim as the best tidings upon earth those that were proclaimed more than nineteen hundred years ago, the message proclaimed by the angel to the shepherds when he said, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." So whether we be German, French, Italian, English, or

Jew, it makes no difference, the same glad tidings which proclaimed Jesus Christ as Savior nineteen hundred years ago may be our tidings today. That same Savior who was born then and laid in a manger in Bethlehem, is alive and is King forevermore.

He is the Savior not only of the Jews but of all who will come unto Him. As we near this Christmas, this time when the minds of all Christendom is fixed upon that great event, the birth of the Christ, all Christians, regardless of where they are or how their countries are torn by war, and regardless of the evil tidings that come over the radio and through the newspapers, they may still have whispered to them in that sweet, small, tender voice, "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior."

Prayer For Finland

THERE must be in Christian hearts everywhere a special feeling for Finland. We notice in a recent issue of the Chattanooga Daily Times the account of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States attacking the German-Russian Non-Aggression Pact as an illicit and immoral aggressive combination to destroy liberty and democracy and God everywhere, and in the same resolution extended hopes to "courageous, God-fearing Finland." Right on the heels of this resolution there is also published an appeal to the world by the Finns to give them active help, in which the Finnish Parliament says that the nation has a right to expect aid in its defense of everything which civilized people hold sacred, and is it not true that democratic institutions, religions, homes, everything which civilized peoples hold sacred is now in that fair land threatened with annihilation? Christians should not have a feeling of hate that would make them wish to go to war even against the aggressor, but they should have inbedded within their hearts that deep love for those who are God-fearing, that we may pray that God will in some way, even among the bursting of the bombs, the flaring of the rockets, and the crack of the machine guns and rifles, make Himself to be known as the Prince of Peace, and who can and will and does bring individual peace to every heart that will accept Him.

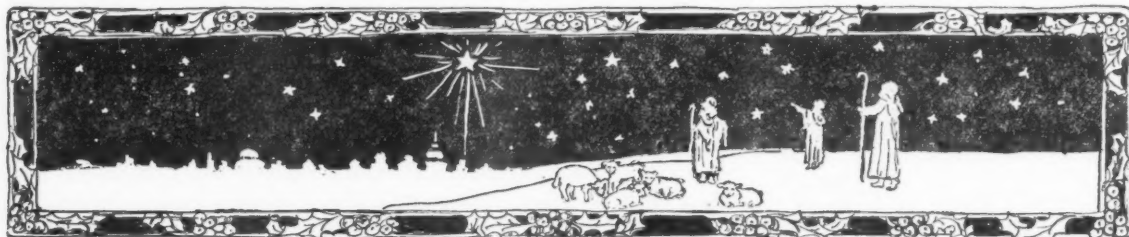
Caesar

DURING the early Roman Empire, the history of events show plainly that Caesar was not God's king. He had a domain that was far-reaching, so widespread that every other nation had become subordinate to Rome, and Caesar had the power to send out a decree that all the world should be taxed. It was an opportune time to enlighten the minds of men and women and let them know that God was not satisfied with the order of
(Continued on page 15)

When Shepherds Came

*WHEN shepherds came to Bethlehem
A Baby King awaited them.
A King too poor to own a crown,
Except a bit of star-lit down.
No sceptre, but a rosebud hand;
No power, but love to rule the land.
So poor and helpless and so small
This King within the cattle stall.
And yet the angels at His birth
Came winging softly to the earth,
And even kings kneeled low to pray
Before His manger bed of hay.*

Ida Tyson Wagner





The Perry - Scope



BY EVANGELIST SAM C. PERRY

Overcomers Through Christ

The Christian's life is a life of victory over sin. Through the fall sin has filled the world and reached all the human family. Sin abounds everywhere. Sin is responsible for all the wreck and ruin in the world from Adam till now. Man has fallen so deeply into sin that the spirit of this world everywhere is sinful and wicked.

Jesus said to His disciples:

"Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33. And this He expects every believer and follower of His to do.

Paul said to the Christians:

"Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ," 1 Cor. 15:57. And this was the common experience of all Christians in that day, and it is equally our privilege to have the same today.

John said:

"Whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world," 1 John 5:4. To overcome sin we must get out of the grip of sin and get sin out of us, and this can be done only by the new birth. All who are truly born of God are overcomers of sin and the world. Praise the Lord.

John said, further:

"This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." Faith in the Lord Jesus was the means of this great victory then, and is the same now, and will continue so until the gospel age ends and Jesus returns to this earth again.

The glorified Christ said:

The overcomer is to hold on, and do the works of Christ until the end, and He shall then receive a reward. Rev. 2:25. The intimation is that those who do not overcome to the end may lose their crowns. He that shall endure to the end "shall be saved," and "be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life," are Jesus' words.

To be an overcomer through Christ the believer will experience,

1. Victory over the practice of sin in everyday life. It is at the entering into the experience of the new birth that the believer begins to walk in the path of obedience to the Lord and His Word. The sin life is left behind, and the spiritual, heavenly journey begins.

2. The fruits of the Spirit, love, joy, peace, etc., are now his daily portion, as a victorious follower of Christ. Gal. 5:22, 23.

3. He will be conscious of a freedom and deliverance from sin, its bondage and

condemnation, unknown before. The Spirit of God will witness to his heart that he is accepted before God.

4. There will be a soul rest not known before. Jesus said, "Come unto me, and I will give you rest." This is a part of the experience of the victorious Christian. Rest from sin. Rest from condemnation. Rest from worry. Rest from fear.

5. A clean heart is a part of the portion of the overcomer, "The blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin," 1 John 1:7. This is an experience to be known and felt and appreciated by the victorious Christian. Notice, "cleanseth" is in the present tense. We are cleansed *now*. And in the days to come it is the same,—*kept* under the ever present cleansing blood of Jesus.

6. The overcomer enjoys the continued presence and fellowship of the Spirit of God to lead and guide him on day by day. He overcomes by faith as he trusts the Lord and looks to Him for every need. The Comforter, the Holy Ghost, whom Jesus sent, is the source of the overcomer's power, both in living the victorious life, and in performing faithfully the service the Lord requires. He guides into truth, reveals the things of Christ, and abides forever.

Forms of Hypocrisy

A hypocrite is one who professes to be what he is not. In other words, he lives a lie. If he preaches, he preaches what he does not practice. If he testifies he tells what he does not experience. He sails under false colors. He labors to make the world believe he is better than what he actually knows himself to be. His coin is counterfeit. He deals in imitation, and his true self is hidden under camouflage. His tribe has not yet run out, nor have they lost any of their *daring*. They still invade God's sacred sanctuary and take places among God's saints. Their marks of identification are still the same as in olden times, with perhaps a few added in these days of universal progress. Satan dickers with them, and works through them, and certainly he would not let anything set them aside at this, his time of special activity. We give below some marks they bore in Bible times:

1. *A partial putting away of sin.*

John very zealously destroyed the idols and idol worshippers out of the land. It is said that he "destroyed Baal out of Israel." But the golden calves, by which Jeroboam had made Israel to sin so grievously, he destroyed not, nor did he turn from them. Read his record, and what

came of it. 2 Kings 10. The whole-hearted worshipper of God *turns from all his sins*, and obeys God with all his heart. How many professed Christians in the world today are like Jehu.

2. *A fear of God, but a life of sin.*

The Samaritans had a great fear of the God of Israel, but they continued to worship their own heathen idols. 2 Kings 17:24-33. It is possible today that men may be regular attendants at the house of God and reverence and respect it in a way, and yet live for themselves and this world. God save us from such a course.

3. *Seeking God only in pretense.*

"Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly (in falsehood), saith the Lord," Jer. 3:10. No such seeking ever gets men to God, but whole-hearted, earnest seeking does. How many pray and seek God with their lips, while their hearts are far from Him.

4. *Seeking God daily, but continuing in sin.*

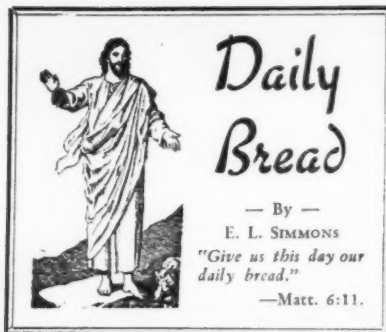
Israel sought God daily, and with fasting and prayer and the observance of His ordinances, and yet they were not acceptable to Him because they fasted for strife and debate. They did not loose the bands of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens, deal bread to the hungry, etc. Isa. 58:1-7. Sin is always displeasing to God. Nothing we can do will excuse it. It must be confessed, forsaken, and blotted out in His prescribed way. There must be no sin in our lives, whether in the everyday home life or our relation with God's people, or in the social and business world about us. "Sin is a reproach to any people." It is righteousness, the way of truth and holiness that exalteth a nation.

5. *When the prophets taught "for fire" and ministered "for money," yet professed to "lean upon the Lord,"* Micah 3:11, *God was displeased with them.* Read the record.

God's true prophets and ministers have never been hirelings. It is true that they are God's charge and He will provide for all their needs, but when money becomes an issue with them the true spirit of prophecy and blessing departs from them. Certainly this is an age of covetousness and when money is the god worshipped by many, but God is pleased to save His own from this awful damning malady. It hardly seems possible that men could go out into the world as zealous preachers of the Word of life to the lost, and at the same time money, and to make a support for themselves and their families be the uppermost thing in their minds!

6. *Some condemned little sins, but committed greater sins themselves.*

(Continued on page 14)



Sunday, December 24

"God Is Love."

Read 1 John 4:7, 8.

Niagara stopped once! Owing to an ice dam thrown across the river the waters failed, the rainbow melted, the vast music was hushed. But there has never been a moment in which the love of God has failed toward the rational universe, nor its eternal music been broken, nor the rainbow ceased to span the throne, and there never will be such a moment. The crystal tide of God's love flows richly and freely forever.

Monday, December 25

"To all the people."

Read Luke 2:10, 11.

A young man in south Mississippi had given his heart to God. He was so thrilled with his new experience that he was determined to take a journey home and tell all of his people about it. But when he arrived he found that there were very few of them that would accept it. He returned with a sad heart. The story of the newborn King was not an individual story for individuals, but an all-inclusive story that brought tidings for all of the people, the story of a Savior.

Tuesday, December 26

"Trust in the Lord."

Read Ps. 37:3-5.

One young man once remarked to another, "Bill, I can trust the Lord when the sun is shining and everything is running along smoothly and nicely, but in the dark hours I just can't trust Him." Bill replied, "You do not trust God at all if you cannot trust Him in the dark. Suppose I should say to you, 'I can trust you when it is daylight but when the shades of night have fallen I cannot trust you?' " God is looking for children who can trust Him in the darkest hours.

Wednesday, December 27

"I will restore."

Read Joel 2:12-26.

Do we allow the disappointments and

reverses of the past to discourage us? Many times that which seems to be an adversity turns out to be a real blessing. A mother whose son was wayward and seemed to drift farther in sin all the time, was continually praying that God would save her wayward boy. After years of such praying when it seemed that her prayers were fruitless, the boy had a terrible accident and was reported dead. The mother was very downcast because she felt that all her prayers were in vain. Suddenly the news came that the boy had come to his right mind and had completely surrendered to God. Christ is the Restorer.

Thursday, December 28

"A treasure hid."

Read Matt. 13:33, 34.

The treasure of salvation is not found by the proud, haughty and highminded, but rather by those who are humble. In His hour of rejoicing, Jesus thanked the Father that "these things were hid from the wise and prudent and revealed unto babes." The hidden treasures of God are only discovered through the eyes of humility and it takes the scrutiny of such eyes to detect the treasure that is hid in the field. Such a treasure is found only by those who earnestly seek for it, but the earnest seeker shall find.

Friday, December 29

"Praise is comely."

Read Ps. 33:1-3.

A young colored woman returned to her optometrist to have her glasses adjusted. After some conversation the optometrist asked, "Well, how do you like your new glasses?" She replied, "O Doctor, I likes 'em fine. You know I can't see anything much through 'em but my friends all say dey sho' is becoming." The plan of salvation is becoming to the upright; the praise of God is becoming to the upright, but the words of praise of one who does not live right is like a jewel of gold in a swine's snout.

Saturday, December 30

"Will not forsake thee."

Read Deut. 4:31-33.

Nations may forsake their covenants and treaties; husbands and wives may forsake their companions, and a mother may forsake her nursing child, but God has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." The greatest covenant ever signed, the most permanent guarantee, the most reliable seal, is that covenant made by the Father through the Spirit and sealed with the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son.

Question Box

Question: How is it that the year B. C. 5, is given for the birth of Christ when our present-time records are supposed to be from the date of His birth?—E. M. H.

Answer: This is indeed a puzzling question to many. The reason is that the dating of events from His birth began centuries later. Our first datings from the birth of Christ were published by the monk Dionysius Exiguus who first published his calculations in A. D. 526. After many years it was found according to old Roman records in the archives of Rome, that the monk had made a mistake of about four years, but after the complete Christian world had been running and all of its records dated for many years on that date, it would have been almost disastrous to try to make a change, hence our dating is four years behind what it should be.

Question: I can understand that B. C. stands for "before Christ" but how does the abbreviation A. D. stand for "in the year of our Lord"?

Answer: The abbreviation A. D. is for the Latin *anno Domini* which means "in the year of our Lord," denoting the time from the Savior's incarnation.

Question: If the doctrine that every one who receives the baptism of the Holy Ghost speaks with other tongues is profitable and a part of the gospel of Christ, then how can Paul say, "I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you," Acts 20:20? (He did not sign his name.)

Answer: The inquirer should read Acts 19:6, "And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came upon them and they spake with tongues and prophesied." This shows conclusively that Paul did not keep back anything from them and that speaking in tongues as a manifestation of the advent of the Holy Ghost followed his preaching.

The Question Box bids all the Evangel readers a merry Christmas and happy New Year, and wishes to extend its help to all those desiring it.

ANNA, Tex.—Dear saints: We have a good church here at Anna, Tex. with a band of saints of about thirty-five or forty. We have services four times a week—Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday nights and Sunday School with about fifty present. The Lord is surely blessing.

We would be glad to hear from some Church of God minister and saints and for them to come to see us.—O. B. Bolton and wife.



Good Tidings of Great Joy



LUKE 2:10, 11: "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

This most wonderful story has always touched the hearts of men. The story of the coming of Jesus into the world is the great event in all history. All dates are determined from the birth of Christ. Luke informs us that the birth was during the taxation that went out from Augustus Caesar. In recent years old clay tablets have been unearthed, revealing the verification of this great fact recorded by St. Luke. December 25 is the universal date accepted by Christendom, which is celebrated as the world's most momentous event in history. In the second century, we are told that Christmas was first celebrated by order of Telesphorus, the seventh Bishop of Rome, who shortly afterward suffered martyrdom, the keeping of Christ's birthday being one of his offenses. But, it is believed that not until the thirteenth century did the infant Christ and the manger come to have the place they now hold in the thoughts and affections of Christians, and this was greatly due to the influence of Francis of Assisi. The legend of the first Christmas tree is that Boniface selected a fir tree for his followers, "Straight and green with its top pointing toward the stars, here is the living tree with no stain of blood upon it, that shall be the sign of your new worship." The various countries have different ways of celebrating Christmas.

Over nineteen hundred years ago our text was announced, but the tones of that message have been caught and repeated by an increasing number of God-sent messengers and the lustre of that night has not passed away. The world at that time, with its hardness of heart through unbelief and sin, was not looking for the Messiah, nor did it seem to comprehend the fulness of the prophetic promise of God, and had no room for Christ in their homes, hearts, and lives. He did not come as they desired Him. The unsaved and unbelieving found no room for Him, yet He was born a King, lived as a King, died a King, arose a King over death, hell, and the grave; still many people are saying with bitterness in their hearts as did the Jews, "We will not have a man to reign over us.

By J. H. WALKER
General Overseer

His blood be upon us and upon our children."

The shepherds attending their flock by night were startled by the heavenly visitor. No doubt having watched the throngs all day coming into the little city, the subject of taxation and paying tribute to a foreign world power was discussed, and they were longing in their hearts for relief, and renewed anxiety for the coming Messiah. How fitting it was too, that shepherds should be chosen when we remember how the twenty-third Psalm begins, "The Lord is my shepherd." This Babe born in Bethlehem was to be the Good Shepherd, giving life, His

you good tidings of great joy."

Fears must vanish before receiving the good message. Are you afraid of your sins, the world, worldly associates, the flesh, the devil? "Fear not," Jesus said, "I have overcome the world. All things are possible to him that believeth." Are you afraid of the terrors of religion or the destruction of the Church? Remember, "Fear not," Jesus is the first, the last, the Almighty, the Rock against which the gates of hell shall not prevail.

But, after a little while the shepherds believed the miraculous story of the birth of Christ, the Messiah of God. They showed faith in God's announcement by the angel. The message thrilled their hearts with great joy. A Savior born in

David's city, a King of Israel, was waiting to bring great joy to all people—Jews, Gentiles, bond or free, for every man, woman, boy and girl who will accept His plan of salvation.

"There is born a Saviour."

That meant that men were lost, all men were lost. But what a thrill of joy must have shot through their hearts as these astonished men listened to the words of this wonderful message. A Savior! Ah, there must be provision for man's salvation. All along down through dark, weary ages man had been groaning in miserable captivity to tyrant powers of sin. He could not save himself, he needed a Savior, one greater than Moses who delivered Israel from Egypt's taskmasters. Isaiah called Him the "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." That marvelous One that goes out in-

to the world healing the sick, feeding the hungry, comforting the afflicted, yes, the wonderful Savior! To the paralytic which was let down through the roof, He said, "Thy sins be forgiven thee." To the woman who washed His feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair, He said, "Go in peace and sin no more." While the cruel, angry mob nailed Him to the tree, His compassionate heart prayed, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." To the dying thief He said, "This day shalt thou be with me in paradise." A Savior had come. A Savior greater than Moses, greater than any man of earth bringing joy to the world.

"A Savior which is Christ," Christ the Messiah, the Anointed One of Israel. He
(Continued on page 15)

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



As I think of you out there in the other nations under the present existing conditions, I ask you to pause a moment and accept my warm, hearty, sincere, Christian greetings in the name of the Holy Child Jesus!

J. H. Walker, Gen'l. Overseer

life, for the sheep.

They were frightened, as men are usually afraid of the things divine prior to their conversion. The angel cried, "Fear not." Truly, Jesus must have arranged these words to be said upon His arrival, because He used the same expression so many times in His lifetime. The disciples troubled, cast down, afraid, fell at His feet trembling; He lifted them up with the words "Fear not." Their ship was sinking in the storm, they heard the cry "Fear not." When they feared being destroyed, driven throughout the cold world, we hear Him say, "Fear not, little flock, it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Among His last words were, "Let not your hearts be troubled." "Fear not: for, behold, I bring

LEAVES FROM THE FIG TREE

An Interpretation of Current Events in the Light of Holy Prophecy

"Now, learn a parable of the fig tree: when his branch is yet tender and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh," Matt. 24:32.

By JUDGE SULLIVAN

In the early part of December Thomas E. Dewey, a candidate for the presidency of the United States, made this statement: "When President Roosevelt was inaugurated he said, 'Our greatest primary task is to put people to work.' After seven years, putting people to work is still our greatest primary task. One person out of every five employable persons in this country is today unemployed. The great unanswered question is: What keeps him out of work?" Mr. Dewey is quite right. The important problem is the one of unemployment. President Roosevelt has, without question, done his best. So has Congress. So have the leaders of industry and labor. The Bible alone gives the answer to Mr. Dewey's question, **WHAT KEEPS HIM OUT OF WORK?** God, alone, has the answer. Here it is: "For before those days there was no hire for man, nor any hire for beast; neither was there any peace to him that went out or came in because of the affliction: For I set all men, every one against his neighbour." The reference above to "those days" refers directly to the rebuilding of the Temple. The Jews are going back; the Temple will be rebuilt. God's Word is infallible.

Buford H. Jones, wealthy shoe manufacturer, allegedly killed himself with a shotgun. Going to the bathroom of his show-place home, he blasted his head off, leaving a note to a servant to "Take care of the dogs and don't open the bathroom door." What is wrong when a man living in the lap of luxury with everything needful at his hand, will commit suicide? Why is life palling on so many wealthy people, such as Eastman, Kreuger, Jones, et al? Jesus has the answer. "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth."

An A. P. dispatch of December 6 carries a blunt warning from the Red dictator, Stalin, to the Balkan country of Rumania, that they had better come to terms with Russia. What does Russia want of Rumania? She merely wants to rule the country. She wants communism to be the order of government. In the past two years we have witnessed Italy taking Ethiopia and Albania; Germany

has taken Czecho-Slovakia, Austria, Danzig and half of Poland; Russia has taken the other half of Poland, all of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, and is today warring on little Finland. She is also reaching south to grab the Balkan countries. There is talk, however, of a Balkan Federation, under the rule of some strong man, to resist aggression by the Red armies. This will very probably be done. The ten dictators will be there.

In March of this year Joseph Stalin, Dictator of Russia, made a speech. In that speech he said this: "We stand for rendering support to nations which have fallen prey to aggression and are fighting for their independence." A few months later this same Stalin was trying to wrest the independence of small, weak Finland. Are the dictators to be trusted? Are their words worth anything? How can they be truthful when they are animated by the powers of the enemy? Hitler, another dictator, has brazenly said in his book, "*Mein Kampf*," that he will readily violate a treaty or break his word when he can gain an advantage by so doing. What is the inference? Paul saw them coming and said they would be "... truce breakers, false, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good ..." etc."

Jessie Barrall Eubank, well-known writer and lecturer on religious subjects, has a very interesting article in the *AMERICAN* for January. She discusses the question, "Does our youth want religion?" She makes this very interesting answer: "If you mean religion as the young people find it in the churches today, the answer is plain. By a large majority they have turned their backs upon the churches. The relative scarcity of people between fourteen and twenty-five in any congregation is evident." Farther on in her article she says this: "The churches must **FACE REALITY OR PERISH**. Our youth want to know more of God, the Creator of this universe. They want a philosophy of life that will give a chart and compass to a seemingly derelict world. **HAS CHRISTIANITY SUCH A CONTENT AND PROGRAM?**" The answer, my dear youth, is, Yes, a thousand times, yes! We not only invite you to a philosophy of life but a **WAY OF LIFE**. We not only have the doctrine but

an inward power that is real and genuine. But, oh, my! What an indictment against the churches! When the church fails to demonstrate the keeping, directing power of the Christ life within, they have served their purpose. While it is an indictment against formalist churches, it is a keen challenge to the Church of God. Let our young people say to the youth of America by their lives as well as their lips: **"COME THOU WITH US AND WE WILL DO THEE GOOD."** The inference? **"A FORM OF GODLINESS BUT DENYING THE POWER THEREOF."**

Life magazine informs us that a certain lady, a registered nurse and ex-actress, has toured the country teaching the women how to smoke. "During the past year Miss Linden has toured the country lecturing to clubs, department-store employees, nurses, and charm-school students on smoking manners. Women are the greatest potential market for future increase in cigaret sales. . . . In her lectures Miss Linden stresses all the things not to do with a cigaret." Well, well, well! The instruction is a bit late, I fear. The women of today, many of them at least, appear quite proficient in smoking. God help us to see that this is merely another slap at the goodness and mercy of God.

The American government, through the R. F. C., has arranged to loan Finland ten million dollars to purchase supplies in America. In many ways this is a commendable deed. However, it appears to be contrary to our policy of "strict neutrality." We can't help Finland without angering Russia. We can't help Britain and France without further angering Germany. Yet, the sympathies of the American people are with the opponents of Russia and Germany. If, as Senator Vandenburg stated, we become the store house of one warring nation, we will become the target of another. Let us not be deluded by the siren song of peace. That we shall be dragged into the vortex of war, I have no doubt. The ruthlessness of the dictators is such that they will eventually drag America into the seething caldron of a horrible war. Jesus saw it coming and called it **"UPON THE EARTH DISTRESS OF NATIONS."**

1,950 Churches and 70,000 Members to Observe Watch Night



QUITE a contrast with twenty years ago when 300 churches were represented.

We are now sitting at the bedside of the year 1939. Her steps have begun to grow old and feeble, so much so that she has just about retired. Her pulse is not as strong as it was in the days of yore. Her accomplishments, though they have been many, have just about ceased, her eyes grow dim because she can offer nothing for the future. We now, by way of retrospection, begin to look back over the past and as we look we may see some troubles, some disappointments, some heartaches, and some things even in the lives of the ministers that have seemed to be a failure. But there are those things that brighten our countenances. As we think of the revivals, the sweeping success of evangelists and of pastors, the great expansion in our mission work, our orphanage, and the way our Bible School has grown, there is a quickening of the heartbeat. But 1939 is just about to pay her last respects to all of her accomplishments and just about to relegate to the past all of the disappointments that she had to offer. Just a few more days and there will be born into the cycles of time another year, the year 1940.

Many will sit by the bedside of 1939 until she has passed away. They wish to do this because they would like to spend their last hours with her in prayer. Then again, on the other hand, they would like to greet the newborn year as she ushers in with all of her promises, with all of her opportunities, and everything that her kind and generous heart has to offer.

There is no part of life but what will be affected by the new year. Her hand will stretch out with opportunities to all. Business has already begun to look forward to her and make her preparation to take advantage of every opportunity that she has to offer. Industry is looking forward with great anticipation to a better year of work, better living conditions, yea, it is expecting great things of 1940. Politics is by no means asleep in these closing hours of 1939. Busy is she in making preparation to meet the newborn year and to take advantage of every thing that she will have to offer. But there is a large group of people with whom all of these things come secondary. It is that group of people who are interested in the kingdom of our Lord and the furtherance of the Church of God here upon this earth.

It is altogether fitting and proper that the Church of God should be interested in new things. First, because it is made up of new things. In 1 Cor. 5:7 we are informed that the child of God is to have

Watch Night

BY E. L. SIMMONS

the old leaven purged and is to become a new lump. The leaven of malice and wickedness, the leaven of pride and envy, and all of those other things that go to distort and impede the progress of the child of God are to be taken out and the new lump be completely permeated with purity and truth.

Secondly, it is only as we are interested in new things that we are making progress. Those who have always been satisfied with the old order of things, satisfied with the old implements of farming or of warfare or in any other line, have never made any progress, but it is those



who are looking for new treasures, looking to accomplish new things in newer and better ways, that are making progress. In 2 Cor. 5:17, Paul says, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." The new creature is capable of doing new things because he is a new creature. He is a new creature in that he has become a child of God. The more of God he has in him the greater his accomplishments as a child of God will be, the more favor he has of God the more he will show the works of God, and all of this because he is a new creature and that he has entered into a new sphere of life. "Behold all things are become new."

Regardless of all the wonderful things that have been accomplished by God and His Church in the year 1939, there lies a wonderful field of opportunity before us for the future. The year 1940 opens a gate open wide. That gate leads out on to highways that are paved for speed and progress and the Church of God must take advantage of that opportunity. The

Church of God must pass that gate and she must not pass through in vain. On the night of New Year's Eve thousands will be in service. There will be testimonies of what God has done; there will be resolutions of what we are going to do for God the coming year; pledges and vows will be made in profusion, but is there anything wrong in making vows? Some people have said that they did not believe in making vows all because the wise man said it is better not to vow a vow than to make a vow and not pay, and again, that if we vow a vow unto the Lord we shall neglect not to pay. Eccl. 5:4. The cause of all of our religious trouble of backsliding, apostasy, and general going back on God is because of neglect. There is no sin like the sin of putting things off. Truly it has been said, "Procrastination is the thief of time." It is that spirit of neglect that has tapped and sapped the very essence of the experience of men and women who have one time lived for God. It is the spirit of neglect that has taken the very life out of the church, killed the testimonies, and caused sermons to be dry. Where there is a spirit of neglect, there will be a lack of progress, for progress comes only through work and through taking care of one's vows as they have been made.

I knew of a man who had an old mule named Lula. His harness that he used on her was very poor. It became this way because of neglect. When a part of it would break he would get a piece of hay wire or homespun string or twine and wire or tie it up. The time finally came that about all there was left to old Lula's harness was hay wire and strings. It was because he neglected to fix it and fix it right when it got into bad fix. The same thing may be true in our spiritual experiences. When we fail to make things right as they should be made right, when we fail to renew and keep in repair that that God has endowed us with, it, too, may finally come to be in the same condition as old Lula's harness—a mass of hay wire and strings.

Let us wake up and greet 1940 with a smile, with vigor, with vitality, with a desire and determination to work and to do more for God than we ever have done before.





The Star of Bethlehem



It is my purpose in this paper to picture the world without Christ and to contrast it with a world living under the soft rays of the Star of Bethlehem.

O world! in whom the God of eternity once moved and smiled upon an innocent race created in the likeness and image of Jehovah, what has expelled the glory that once enshrouded thee? Is there an answer to this awful inquiry? Yes, the answer is brief, but tragic. SIN—"But your iniquities hath separated between you and your God, and your sins hath hid his face from you, that he will not hear." These are the words of the Prophet Isaiah recorded in the fifty-ninth chapter and second verse. Is it possible to describe the tragedy of sin, and is it possible to contrast the thick darkness which now enshrouds this great ball on which we live with the golden light that once beamed on it from the face of the God of love?

O man, where art thou? Have you deliberately spurned the love of your Creator? Have you dishonored His name and reproached the majesty of His law? Yes, all of this have you done and even more than a few simple phrases could possibly record.

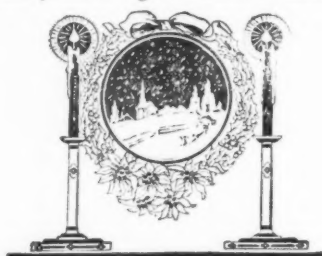
For several millenniums God has permitted man to continue in his rebellion and shame. A thousand storms have swept madly across his pathway. The earth, for man's sake, was cursed, thus not a rose has been plucked without the thorn and with every smile there has been the teardrop. The very bread which sustains his natural life is obtained only through painful and strenuous effort. The sunshine is obscured by the shadow. The sky is overcast by the cloud. The music is mixed with the sigh and in the midst of the blessings of nature is the conspicuous curse of sin!

What will be thy destiny, O man? Is there hope for one who is cut off from holy communication with his Creator? Will the light of God's love ever shine upon your darkened path? Will you ever find your way back to the bosom of His love? In the midst of storm, flood, cruel bloodshed and a thousand unsurmountable obstacles will you press your way to the land of promise? Is there an answer to this solemn question? Is there hope for poor broken and sin-tossed mankind? Yes, there is a ray of hope which penetrates the darkness of the ages beaming from the Star of Bethlehem.

O regions of darkness! in whose cruel grasp has been held for ages the most precious of God's creatures, from whose hands drips steadily the blood of innocent victims, STOP, surrender your throne and view your inglorious end. Hear the

BY L. W. SISK

proclamation of the archangel who proclaims in thunder tones the greatest and most hopeful sentence ever carried on the wings of God's love. Listen, "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, good will toward men." "His name shall be called Jesus for he shall save his people from their sins." Oh, Star of Wonder, Star of Light, it is thy great power that scattered the night. Before thy face darkness fleeth and the light shineth as at noonday. "The light shineth in darkness



and the darkness comprehendeth it not."

In the manger at Bethlehem is a little Babe who is the incarnate Word, the hope of Israel and a light to the Gentiles. For centuries the mothers of Israel had hoped to be the mother of the Deliverer. Prophets had spoken concerning Him. Saints and sages had sung praises to their expected Messiah and yet they stumbled when they found Him outside the royal circle, in an ox stall, cradled in a manger. Yes, they refused to accept Him for they knew Him not.

For four dark centuries Israel had been without a prophet. Scribes and Pharisees blindly went about their pretended worship and reading of the Law and Prophets, but having a veil of darkness over their eyes they were not able to discern the times and to know their King when He appeared. This was the earth's darkest moment, a total eclipse of the Sun of righteousness. Yet in the midst of a dense darkness heaven flashes a gleam of light. "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." "A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." At this proclamation the bells around all worlds rang and the angels proclaimed the eternal majesty and power of the Son of God. Yes, the Day Star has arisen, the Bright and Morning Star, the Star of Bethlehem, the Light of the World, the Glory of Eternity!

*All ye saints of light proclaim
Jesus the light of the world,
Life and mercy in His name,
Jesus the Light of the World.*

Before His shining countenance the clouds are expelled and night becomes day. Sin is dethroned and righteousness reigneth forever. Truly now it may be said in the words of the wise man, "The path of the just shineth more and more unto the perfect day." The Lion of the tribe of Judah hath prevailed, the mighty one has triumphed over His enemy. Those who sit in darkness may now see a great Light.

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph saw Him as through a glass darkly, but now the world sees Him face to face. To the saints of old He was as a distant light gleaming from a cottage window, but now He appears as the sun in its strength at noonday. He is the Light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world. To the eyes of His saints He glitters as illuminary in darkness and expells their sorrows, and in the words of the poet:

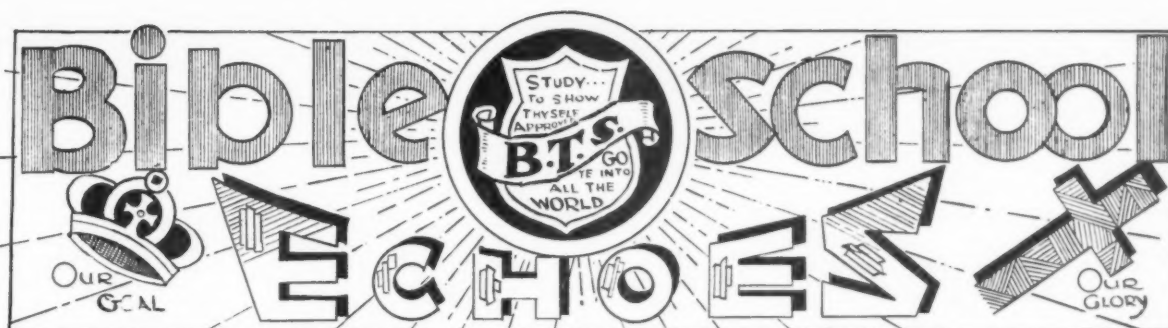
*His name dispels all guilt and fear,
No other name but Jesus.
Oh, how my soul delights to bear,
The charming name of JESUS.*

In Him is no darkness at all and if we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship one with the other and our hearts are cleansed from all sin. We are the children of day. Upon us shines the light of His countenance and He supplies all our needs according to His riches in glory. "Jesus Christ is made to me all I need, all I need. He alone is all my plea, He is all I need."

What is the answer to the critic and ungodly skeptics of this day who deny the profoundest truths ever proclaimed among men? They say that He was not the Son of God, and that His claims to be the Savior were false. To them He was just an insignificant babe who grew up to be an ordinary man with perhaps a few superior natural qualities, with a magnetic personality. His claims to be virgin-born as well as His vicarious death and physical resurrection were only the repetition of false claims which from time to time were declared in various nations.

But let them answer honestly the questions which critics of all ages have found themselves unable to answer. Why does His name still ring out through the universe as the greatest of all names? Why are those who have accepted His claims the happiest and the freest people in all the world? Why were more than sixty million men and women willing to spill their life's blood in the defense of the principles for which He stood? Explain the unspeakable joy possessed by thousands of consecrated souls who are wholly devoted to His name. Why does the

(Continued on page 15)



CHRISTMAS! By the will of God, when you read this, the B.T.S. classes will be suspended and many of us students on our way home to spend the Christmas holidays with our families and friends. We are all looking forward to the reluctant good-byes to beloved fellow students; a long, but anxious, journey home; cordial greetings to kindred and friends. We visualize the bliss of sitting around the glowing fireside, with our loved ones, telling our school experience and listening to their tales of local occurrences. In warm, dim parlors we'll stay late. Finally, when the fire has burned to embers and our conversation becomes desultory, we will have our family prayer and go to bed. A night of refreshing sleep will be ours, with meditations of God's mercy and whispers of love.

Christmas morning we'll gather around the ornament-laden tree presenting and receiving the gifts God has granted us. The day will be spent in reverence and worship of God's Son. Perhaps we'll stay home and talk, perhaps we'll venture through the wintry wind and snow to visit some friend, perhaps we'll join friends in harmless sport, such as sleighing, hiking, or hunting. Whatever we do, it will be done in reverence to Christ's birthday.

By CHARLES CONN

After we have eaten the dinner God provides us, we'll go through the bleak, cold night to church. We'll sing carols of yuletide and worship the Father and Son. Then, back home and to bed. Tuesday morning our sojourn will terminate; and, after sad good-byes, we'll make our journey back to the Church of God Bible Training School.

With the help and will of God, most of us plan to be home Christmas.

God is greatly blessing us with spiritual services in the closing days of this year. With rapid strides we're gaining in spirituality, moving closer and closer to His side. Mothers and fathers will welcome home consecrated young Christians this Christmas.

Last Friday afternoon we had a wonderful service of worship. The Spirit was there in abundance as Brother Charles Taylor preached on honesty; we witnessed glorious demonstrations. Brother Jack Crawford directed the service, and Sister Louise Burgess directed the choir in the song service. Those who preached were Brothers Orlin Lee Rose and Wiley Miller and Sister Willie Ree Murphree. Our meeting was filled with glory, as they all are.

Sunday night the Senior Class had

charge of the service. Brother George Brazell, president of the class, presented a play, "The Challenge of the Cross." The actors were both competent and spiritual, making the effort a great success. Throughout the play a great hushed silence gripped the audience, as the Holy Ghost incarnated Himself deeper and surer into our souls. Silent tears streamed down the cheeks of lachrymose boys and girls as they witnessed the challenge of Golgotha's cross.

When the play was finished the Holy Ghost superseded His tranquil caressing and wrought in our souls mightily as a storm. Penitent sinners dropped at the altar, crying for peace.

Outside, the rain swirled down from a howling wind, and lightning flashed in the sky everywhere about, for it was a dreary, morbid night. Inside, God's blessings poured, the Spirit shone, and Satan howled, for it was a glorious and expectant night.

When the rapture occurs, I'm sure that a large majority of the students will be wafted through the clouds to meet our Savior. For we're preparing!

(Your reporter, the faculty, and the entire student body join in wishing you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!)



Reports From the Field



Y. P. E. Rally Held

The Y.P.E. rally was held at Jasonville, Ind., Monday night, Nov. 29, with Brother Hubert Deitz, state superintendent, in charge. The service opened with prayer led by Brother R. J. Staats, state overseer. Special music was furnished by the orchestra made up of the different churches. We were made to feel welcome by the president of the Jasonville Y. P. E., Sister Jo Campbell. Brother Deitz gave a talk on the Y. P. E. for the coming year. We praise God for Brother Deitz and the good work he is doing for the young people in Indiana.

The different Y. P. E.'s favored us

with many good songs. A very touching pantomime was given by the Jasonville Y. P. E. entitled, "Thou Shalt Have No Other Gods Before Thee."

Brother Staats then introduced Sister Betty Carroll of Bloomington, Ind., as our state Y. P. E. evangelist for the coming year. Sister Carroll is just fifteen years old but it is wonderful how God uses her. She brought us a wonderful message under the anointing hand of God. We thank God for her and feel she will be a benefit to the young people in the state.

There were about six hundred fifty present at our rally and we praise God

for every one.

Please pray for the young people in Indiana, that we might all work for one purpose the coming year—to go over the top for Jesus. Our next rally will be held Jan. 11 at Coalmont, Ind. Everyone is welcome to join us and enjoy the good presence of God.—Vonda Bridwell, state secretary, Jasonville, Ind.

From Oklahoma to Maine

We wish to express our sincere thanks to members and friends in Oklahoma for the nice presents, offerings and other expressions of love before we left for the New England states. It was sad to part

★ Reports from the Field Continued ★

from those we love, amidst tears, handshakes and good-byes.

May the Lord bless each one. We desire your prayers that we may be a great blessing in our new field of labor. We are now enjoying a good revival in Portland. Several souls have been definitely blessed.—Geo. M. Bloomingdale, overseer, and wife, 128 Brackett St., Portland, Me.

Saved Through Jesus Alone

DEVINE, Tex.—Greetings in Jesus' name, for there is none other name whereby we can be saved than through Jesus. Praise His holy name. I am glad this Sunday morning finds me saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and a member of the great Church of God.

I am so hungry for the Church this morning; there isn't a church nearer than one hundred miles from here and no members closer than seventy miles, that we know of. We go to the Assembly of God but that doesn't satisfy. We are just Church of God people and don't want to be anything else. God is with us.

Please pray for us and for this place, that God will send workers here, for it is surely a needy field. We have been here only six months and felt led by God to come, so saints, please help us pray for this place.

If Brother Walter Kimball sees this, please write us.—Mrs. R. E. Pyeatt.

I Tried to Do My Best

BLOUNTSVILLE, Ala.—I praise the Lord for taking care of me and my family. I praise Him for keeping me these many years. It is by His grace that I am here. I have been very feeble for some three or four years and at this time I am not able to do anything. Sometimes I can hardly walk around in the house and can't lie in bed only on one side, but I can feel good in my soul.

I started out for the Lord forty years ago and if I know myself I have tried to do my best. The first Church of God I attended I asked them to take me in and in 1914 I received the Holy Ghost and served as deacon about three years. In 1918 the Church gave me evangelist's license and I have done my best in my weak way. I have pastored twenty-two churches and if anyone has seen me doing wrong, please forgive me. I won't be here long and I surely want to be clean. Brother, I am writing to the Evangel family. I may never get to write to the paper anymore. My Evangel will soon be out and I don't know how I can get it

again. I don't have any way or any money, only the Church helps my family. Brothers, sisters and friends, if you feel like it, write me a card or a good letter. I can't get out to church. And pray for me and my family. I have eight in family at home and three are in bad health. May God bless all of you.—P. W. Hackney.

Still Pressing On

KEYSVILLE, Va.—There has been some good work accomplished at Keysville and Marble Hill. The Lord has wonderfully blessed us and is still blessing. The second week in July Brother Elbert Bagwell began a revival at Keysville which was a new field for the Church of God. God wonderfully blessed and eight were saved and four sanctified. In August he conducted another revival at Marble Hill, Va., and God blessed in a marvelous way. Sixteen were saved, thirteen sanctified and eight filled with the Holy Ghost. The church was set in order at Marble Hill and has a membership of twenty-seven. The Lord blesses in every service.

We are having much opposition and many trials but are still pressing on for Jesus. We have begun building the church but our people are poor and very few are working on public work and the church is going up slowly. Pray for us that we will be able to get it built.—Charlie McGuire, clerk, Rt. 1, Box 142.

Members Should Be Examples

INDEPENDENCE, Ore. — I praise God for His many blessings He has bestowed upon my pathway. I thank Him for a full and free salvation, for sanctification and the precious Holy Ghost, which helps us to live holy and pure lives, both on the inside and outside. Praise God for the great Church of God.

We are all so glad God saw fit to send our precious overseer, Brother J. B. Camp, to the Pacific Northwest again for another year. He takes a stand for holiness and believes that it should be lived from the top of our heads to the sole of our feet, and not only on the inside but in the outward adorning of men and women. He believes that the members of the Church of God should live so that they can be examples to the believer as well as the unbeliever, 1 Tim. 4:12, and live so there can be no slander nor condemnation on the Church of God. The Pacific Northwest, I believe, stands behind him one hundred per cent. Praise God. I do want to be in that number who are without spot or wrinkle and who have been made white in the blood of the Lamb, Eph. 5:27. "Follow peace with all men,

and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord," Heb. 12:14.—K. N. Allen, 485 7th St.

Jasper District Fellowship Meeting

We are glad to report victory on the Jasper district. God is still with us. The saints from different parts of the district began to gather Monday night, Dec. 4, at Salem Church of God for our first district fellowship meeting. We were made to feel the great power of God. Glory! Though the weather was extremely cold, we could feel that warm brotherly love, fellowship and unity. After receiving a great blessing through the song service, our district overseer, Brother C. A. Drymon, gave some encouraging remarks and led an old time testimony service. We then enjoyed a message by Brother F. W. Hudson.

We are expecting a great year on this district. Our next fellowship meeting will be held at Lee, Fla., the first Monday night in January. We desire your prayers that this fellowship and love one for another will continue on the Jasper district. We invite all who have the privilege to come.—Houston Roberts, Rt. 5, Box 262, Live Oak, Fla.

Enjoyed the Feast of Soul Food

NEWBERRY, Fla.—I praise the Lord for what I feel in my soul right now and for the great day we had yesterday, the first Sunday in December. We surely had a wonderful time. There were Brother John Stevens, our pastor and district pastor, Brother Thomas and Brother Haskins of High Springs, Fla., and Brother Coleman of Gainesville. We surely had a feast with the Lord all day. I thank the Lord for the three sermons I heard; they were surely food to my soul.

We are trying to get money enough to pay our church out of debt so pray that the Lord will bless us to raise the rest of it, and pray for us that we will be able to take care of our faithful pastor, for truly we thank and praise God for such a man as Brother Stevens.—Mrs. W. T. Chance, Box 133.

Enjoying Spiritual Feasts

HERBERT, SASK., Canada. — Since coming here on October 6 we have enjoyed some very good spiritual feasts with God's people. We have two points at present where we hold service. God is especially blessing at the services near Gouldtown, about twelve miles out of Herbert.

We enjoyed the visit of our provincial overseer, Brother M. L. Lowe, on Wednesday, Nov. 22, although, on account of rain in the afternoon, the country folks could not attend. We are pressing on and looking for the soon coming of Jesus.—Harry B. Lane.

★ Reports From the Field Continued ★

Oklahoma State Ministers' Meeting

Brother S. J. Wood, overseer of the state of Oklahoma, has just sent us a notice of his ministers' meeting which convened Wednesday, November 22, at 7:00 p. m. There was a fine number of ministers present and a nice state organization was effected to carry on the Church of God work in that fair state this year. Among others things, arrangements were made for the publishing of a state paper.

According to Brother Wood's letter, the ministers' meeting was a glorious affair and was visited by the Spirit of God throughout the entire session. Many good revivals were reported and some of these were responsible for ministers being absent; others left glorious revivals to attend. The last night of the meeting the building was filled to its capacity and at the conclusion of the message eighteen made their way to the altar to seek God. About twelve or fifteen were saved during the meeting, and a number received the Holy Ghost.

The ministers' meeting for Kansas was held at Coffeetown, Kans., Wednesday night, December 6.

Texas State Ministers' Meeting

The Texas state ministers' conference convened at Fort Worth, Tex., Nov. 18, 19. It is now history, but oh, such blessed history. It has given rise to many sweet memories—to recall the sweet spirit of fellowship and the blessings of the good Holy Ghost as He would bring one wave of glory after another over the people. It makes us long for another such meeting already. I'm sure we are beginning to count the days until we shall gather at our beloved state camp meeting for another feast of love and all that goes with it, which, we pray, will be an enlarged reproduction of the ministers' meeting.

The ministers' meeting proper did not start until Saturday morning at ten o'clock, but the good-spirited pastor, Brother Fielden, and church had arranged for a preconference service Friday night and it was a blessing that they did, for ministers from various sections of the state began to come into town before dark Friday evening.

The Lord was there from the beginning and stayed until the last amen. Personally, I don't recall a better-spirited meeting anywhere at any time. Friday night we had good spiritual singing, testimonies and a message in which the speaker felt the presence of the Lord.

Saturday was business mingled with good songs and prayer. Saturday night our state overseer, H. N. Scoggins, preached a good sermon. Sunday morning was another time of rejoicing. Brother

Melton of Olney, Tex., led the singing in that good, earnest way that he has, and oh, how the Lord did bless. Sunday noon Brother Scoggins brought us another good message. Sometime during his sermon Sister Davis was stricken with a severe pain in her side but after prayer and faith God had mercy on her and healed her, lest our joy should be turned to sadness. Within thirty minutes she was up and outside and I suppose enjoyed the plentiful dinner the good folks at Fort Worth church had prepared. Thanks, Fort Worth church and pastor, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, for your goodness to us. You who were present and you who were not, we want to see you at our state camp meeting. Yes, it's quite a while yet but I'm getting ready now. When in Houston, visit our church at 1404 Alston St.—E. M. Smith, 1905 King St., Houston, Tex.

Arkansas Ministers' Meeting

The Arkansas ministers' meeting convened at Forrest City, Ark., Nov. 17. The ministry and a goodly number of the laity of the Church of God in Arkansas gathered for the opening session. I was especially impressed by the warmth of their greeting and the blessed fellowship which existed among them and though you may be a stranger among them, you find yourself irresistibly drawn into that circle of fellowship and friendliness. You just cannot remain a stranger among such people as compose the Church of God in Arkansas. They are a great, warm-hearted group who really love Christ and His cause.

Our work may be small in Arkansas, if considered in membership, and we don't have as many large congregations as other states. Too, our ministers labor under a handicap, but we have some of the best people in the world. The Church of God in Arkansas is growing and making itself felt from the fertile fields of Mississippi to the heights of the beautiful Ozark mountains. People are inquiring the way to Zion. Truly it can be said of this great state, "the fields are ripe unto harvest." Many thousands have not heard of the Church of God and its message of love. What has been accomplished thus far is the fruit of the untiring efforts of a few faithful preachers who were determined to labor on unsung and unpraised in the face of hardships and privation, but the tide has turned. Laborers are needed to gather the harvest. If you are a preacher of God and are interested in winning lost souls, and to do service for Christ is the burning zeal of your soul, come to Arkansas.

Friday night service opened at 7:30 p. m. by Brother Wilma Henry,

state overseer. After a very blessed prayer and song service, filled with the goodness of God through the great Holy Spirit, there was a brief but Spirit-filled praise meeting conducted by Sister Clara Heatton of West Helena. The message for the evening was brought by the writer and seemed to be enjoyed by everyone present. At the close of the evening service as the congregation stood at the request of the overseer and sang that blessed old hymn, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes," it seemed that the very glory of the Lord came down.

Saturday morning service opened at 9:00 o'clock with prayer and song service. At 9:40 Brother Henry called the ministers into business session. The first item of business was setting the dates for district conventions.

2. The Evangel was discussed and ways and means to increase its circulation in this state were agreed on. If the plan decided upon is carried through, the subscription rate in Arkansas will rise considerably.

3. Missions. Yes, Arkansas is mission-minded too. According to the plan fallen upon by the good overseer, this will be the greatest year for this state in missions.

4. Problems of the ministers were discussed and methods of raising the different quotas were formulated.

At 11:00 o'clock Brother McCullar brought a message which was really food for the hungry, and God really blessed His messenger. The afternoon service opened at 2:00 o'clock. After some good singing, praying and praising God we were again in the middle of one of the sweetest-spirited discussions of problems, both local and general, I have ever attended. The brethren were kind, courteous and considerate of one another. Many good plans for the furtherance of the work evolved from this session. At 7:30 the evening service opened with songs and prayer. The presence and power of God could be felt and was evident all over the building. At 8:20 Brother C. C. Rains, pastor at Marked Tree, brought the message. It was a wonderful message ably delivered. Brother Rains is a wonderful preacher and Arkansas is fortunate in securing him for this year.

Sunday morning at 10:00 a. m. everyone met feeling fine for the final gathering of the ministers' meeting. That morning many important items were discussed but the climax was the message by Brother Wilma Henry, state overseer. His message was about building. I intended to take notes of his sermon but soon forgot pencil and paper. That boy can really preach. He told us many good things which we will never forget. He is not just a good preacher only but is an able overseer. In one short year he has won the esteem and loyalty of the ministry and laity

(Continued on page 14)

REQUESTS

"With thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6.

PRAY FOR:

The healing of my five children of colds and complaints with their heads; one of them to come back to the Lord; the healing of my body; the healing of my husband. Encouraging letters appreciated.—Leode Williford, Rt. 4, Dandridge, Tenn.

Brother Emanuel Lipscomb who is in the last stage of T. B.; our church here at St. George to be built up both spiritually and in number; that we may get a good pastor.—Mrs. M. C. Painter, St. George, W. Va.

Me to be completely healed and gain strength soon; to receive the Holy Ghost.—Mae Freeman, Rt. 1, Fyffe, Ala.

The healing of the Newby family of all sickness; the healing of my eyes; my children to be healed; all sin to be cast out of this family.—Annie Newby, Rt. 2, Cairo, Ga.

The healing of my body of T. B.—Mrs. Pansy Talbert, Sanatorium, Huntsville, N. C.

The healing of my eyes and teeth and something like gallstones; unspoken requests; a closer walk with God; my loved ones to be healed and some to get salvation. Fast, if led.—Mrs. C. Richardson, Rt. 1, Ramhurst, Ga.

Me to receive the Holy Ghost; every hindering cause to be removed; the Lord to save J. H. Johnson; the healing of my body. Anointed cloth appreciated.—Mrs. Lula Johnson, Mount Gay, W. Va.

Me to be completely healed.—Sister F. Joplin, Rt. 2, Forrest City, Ark.

My husband to receive the Holy Ghost; the healing of my body; my children to be saved.—Mrs. W. T. Chance, Box 133, Newberry, Fla.

Three unspoken requests; me to be a true overcomer.—Agnes West, Rt. 2, Box 13, Lake City, Fla.

The healing of my mother's body.—Mrs. Dora Moody, Rocky Mount, N. C.

God to give me faith in healing for my children and me of bad blood; my girl to be healed of heart trouble; daddy to be saved; my home to become a home of prayer. Brother Van Browning, please pray for my family. — Gussie Miller, Amonate, Va.

Some saints to be delivered who have been falsely accused and are to be tried Jan. 1.—Beatrice Ballard, Rt. 1, West Point, Tenn.

My sister who is having a hard trial; my brothers who are lost; me to always live close to God.—Mrs. A. N. Daniel, Box 385, Palmetto, Fla.

God to heal me of high blood pressure and other ailments; me to receive more faith; God to have His way in my life.—Mrs. J. B. Greenlee, Rt. 1, Shaw, Miss.

A friend, that she will receive the Holy Ghost; God to change her husband so she and her children can attend services; my husband to come back to God; an unsaved brother who is in the hospital.—Mrs. Bonnie Bolinger, Rt. 1, Chapel Hill, Tenn.

My little girl and baby. My little girl can't be with us much longer unless the Lord undertakes. Anointed cloth appreciated.—Mrs. K. L. Brasher, Dixiana, Ala.

My sister to be healed and saved. The doctor says she must have an operation which will kill her. Her address is Mrs. N. J. Cross, Sunberry, Ohio, Rt. 1. Fast if led. My body to be healed of rheumatism; my husband to be healed of rheumatism.—Allie Rash, Star Rt. 2, Brodhead, Ky.

The complete healing of my body; my little grandson who is very ill to be healed.—Mrs. Mary Mealer, Oakman, Ga.

Me to receive the Holy Ghost; to be healed of high blood pressure.—Mrs. Lillie Mobley, Rt. 2, Utica, Miss.

The healing of my body of low blood pressure, nervousness and the muscles of my heart which are very weak; unspoken request; my faith to be increased; me to be sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. Anointed cloth appreciated.—Mrs. Della Devall, Rt. 1, Piedmont, S. C.

The healing of my little daughter's leg; loved ones to be saved.—Mrs. Clinton Dean, Marion, Va.

God to strengthen my eyes. — Ella Brewer, 9353 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, Ill.

The healing of our little girls; the saving of souls at this needy place; the saints to be in one accord and be revived; the work here. Me to get closer to the Lord; my unsaved husband to be saved.—Mrs. Ada Strickland, St. Pauls, N. C.

The church at National which is having some difficulties.—John F. Brand, clerk, Box 34, Opekiska, W. Va.

Me to be an overcomer of a severe trial; my sister to be healed and saved.—Mamie E. G., 534 E. Garden St., Pensacola, Fla.

My lost loved ones and companion to be saved.—Mrs. Ellen Walker, S. Locust St., Sulphur Springs, Fla.

Me to receive the Holy Ghost. Any information will be appreciated.—J. M. Cook, Lake City, S. C.

The healing of my body by special prayer.—Jennie Braman, Box 184, Tice, Fla.

It would be easy to tell some people's fortune, for they haven't any nor ever will have.

OBITUARIES

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Ps. 116:15.

FORD

Mrs. Lena Ford of Castleberry, Ala., wife of Rev. E. Ford and mother of Evangelist J. L. Ford and Bishop W. L. Ford, and faithful member of the Church of God, passed away Dec. 3, 1939; age fifty some odd.—One who loved her, C. L. Lord (colored), Georgiana, Ala.

WILLIFORD

Little Luice Edward Williford, son of Brother and Sister Hobert Williford of Dandridge, Tenn., was born June 16, 1929 and departed this life Dec. 1, 1939; age ten years, five months and fourteen days.—His parents, Hobert and Leode Williford, Rt. 4, Dandridge, Tenn.

INGRAM

Nancey E. Ingram, wife of Tom M. Ingram, and a faithful member of the Church of God at Brilliant, Ala., died Nov. 24, 1939; age sixty-two years, six months and seven days. Pray for us in our bereavement. — Her heartbroken granddaughter, Irene Ingram, Rt. 3, Winfield, Ala.

The Perry-Scope

(Continued from page 5)

It was of the Pharisees whom Jesus said they "strain at a gnat and swallow a camel," Matt. 23:24. Think of the preacher who condemns little sins in others, and in strong terms, and at the same time he is himself guilty of greater.

The hypocrite is doubly guilty, because, first, he commits a sinful act, and, second, because he covers it up with the mantle of false profession. God's grace is sufficient for all, even the most tried and tempted. We are without excuse. The servant who "knows not" and does not the master's will will be "beaten with few stripes," and the servant who "knows" and does not "will be beaten with many stripes." But "woe" unto the hypocrite!

Arkansas Ministers' Meeting

(Continued from page 13)

of this state, also the outside love and respect Brother Henry as a Christian gentleman. He ably represents the Church of God in Arkansas. He is continually on the job. Every problem of his pastors is of vital importance in his sight. He takes a keen interest in each and always works to their best interest. It is never too far, the weather too bad nor the cost too great for Brother Henry to help one of his preachers in need. My prayer is, God bless Brother Henry and his precious family. God bless the Church of God in Arkansas.—Ernest W. Wilson, convention clerk, 324 W. Bower, Harrison, Ark.

A Savior Is Born

(Continued from page 3)

no empires. He never drew the sword, yet millions will die for Him—this is not man, He is God."

When the woman at the well saw Him, she said: "This is God." That is why she said to the people, "Come and see."

He is knocking at the door of the human heart. If any man will open the door He will come in and bind the broken heart, heal the wounded spirit, lift every care, kiss away our sorrows, dry our tears. He wants to go into the innermost secrets of your life, not to condemn, but to forgive.

His return in glory and power will be the greatest event in the world's history, when He shall call the righteous from their graves, bind Satan, put down all rule, end all war, and shall reign on earth a thousand years.

This is He of whom the prophet said, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Gabriel said of Him, "And thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins."

The Star of Bethlehem

(Continued from page 10)

preaching of His gospel reform individuals, communities and nations? Explain why that in every country where He is proclaimed as the Savior of mankind there are social reforms, free school systems, as well as unparalleled prosperity.

There is only one answer to the above questions. Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is all He claims to be. He was God incarnated in human flesh. He is God's interpreter, the Hope of the World, the Emancipator of the race. His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. All of these designations combined cannot express either the glory of His person or the power of His grace. He is God's unspeakable gift to a down-trodden, sin-blighted race. Indeed, He is the Star of Wonder. His face outshines them all, His voice is heard above the turmoil and tempest as He exclaims, "Peace be still." He gives joy to the sorrowing heart. He forgives our past and brightens our future. He brings into dark and empty space a New Jerusalem descending from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband, and bids us behold the shining gems prepared for us from the foundation of the world; then, with words freighted with indescribable glory, He points to this great Metropolis and says, "This is the Bride, the Lamb's wife" Here we behold His own purchased possession, the ransomed Church saved to sin no

more, a haven of rest for the weary, a home sweet home for the fainting pilgrim. O Star of Bethlehem, Star of Wonder, thy beauty fills the universe. Thy sweetness is on the roses.

The little Babe of Bethlehem, the Man of Galilee, who knew sorrow and was acquainted with grief, has been exalted to the highest heaven and has taken His seat on the right hand of the Majesty on High. Before Him let angels prostrate fall and let the inhabitants of the earth bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all. O glittering Star, to thee we ascribe all praise, honor and glory. Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, good will toward men.

Editorially Speaking

(Continued from page 4)

events, and that He was not satisfied with Caesar as king. As much as we today may think of our nation and of our government and of our civil laws, there is a lack in the satisfaction of them. They are limited in their extent and meager in their scope. It is because they are earthly, hence lacking in their ability to solve the real problems of life.

Caesar is not God's king. The same need that demanded that a king of peace be ushered upon the stage of action in the days when Christ was born, are prevalent now. Spiritual needs cannot be met by earthly men and it is only through an experimental knowledge of the Prince of Peace that we may actually have the peace of God in our lives and render our spiritual natures to His service.

The Star of Hope

Through the millenniums of the past, though many be the years that were dark, God has not left His people in total darkness and without a sign. Through adversity and obscurity, God has placed a star of hope that bygone generations may see and know of a coming deliverer. Such a star of hope was given to Eve after she and Adam had sinned in the Garden of Eden when God promised that her seed would bruise the serpent's head. Another star of hope arose in the days of Abraham, Gen. 22: 18, "And God said, And in thy seed shall all nations of the earth be blessed." A star appeared to Jacob in Gen. 49:10 in which God said, "The scepter shall not depart from Judah nor a lawgiver from his feet until Shiloh come." This same star appeared to Moses in Deut. 18:15 when this proclamation was made to him, "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a prophet like unto me; him shall ye hear." It has been said that every psalm is Messianic but eight of them are outstanding stars of promise of the coming Messiah. Ten special appearances of this star of hope were disclosed in the prophecy of Isaiah. Micah and Jeremiah saw it. Even during the captivity Hag-

gai, Zechariah, and Malachi, all of these pointed to the manger in which should lie the hope of all mankind everywhere, and was fulfilled in the birth of that great King, Jesus. Luke 2:10.

Christmas Gift

ACCORDING to the beautiful story told by the Apostle Matthew, repeated hundreds of times through the centuries that have passed, approximately nineteen hundred years ago wise men who were perhaps oriental kings journeyed far across the desert to bring to the newborn Christ gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. From this incident sprang the idea of exchanging gifts at the time of the year celebrated as the birth of Christ. But the true thought and import of that great event has been lost, for today people think more of giving gifts one to another than of giving to Christ.

We, perhaps, as the wise men of old are not able to come to Him with an abundance of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. In fact, that is not the gift He desires of us, nor that He would ask of us. He requires of us as God did of Israel, Deut. 10:12, when He asked the question, "What doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul."

The newborn King was God's gift to the world, the gift of His only begotten Son, the gift of Christ to the world was His life, and now He requires of us as a gift that we should walk in His ways, that we should love Him, and that we should serve Him. It makes no difference to what class we belong, whether we are poor or whether we are rich, each of us may bring this gift, the gift of ourselves. Such a consecration is altogether fitting and appropriate during this Christmas tide, and to follow that consecration should be a complete dedication of ourselves to God for service during the year of 1940, that its greatness shall far exceed for God and His Church that of the old year 1939.

Good Tiding of Great Joy

(Continued from page 7)

came to Israel fulfilling the ancient covenant promises, bringing with Him the tender mercies of God. He is that seed of the woman announced and promised to Adam and Eve in the garden, whose mission it was to bruise the serpent's head. He was and is the seed of Abraham in whom all the nations of the earth are blessed. He was the stem of Jesse, the branch of Zechariah, the messenger of the covenant of the Sun of righteousness, arising with healing in His wings.

He was Christ the Lord. Notice the angel just said, "A child is given." Now he

(Continued on page 16)

REVIVALS

HOT SPRINGS, N. Mex.—We thank the Lord for the good revival at Hot Springs, N. Mex. Sister Alice Stewart of Atlanta, Ga. helped with the preaching. Our state overseer, Brother Ramsey, and family were with us one week. We enjoyed his good messages and their Spirit-filled singing. We thank God for sending them to New Mexico. The church at Hot Springs awaits their return.—Pastor W. H. Largin and wife, Box 56.

PERDIDO, Ala.—We praise God for old time victory at this place. We've just closed a three weeks' revival, and my, how the Lord did bless. The Spirit was manifested from the first service and the altar was full from the beginning. The Holy Ghost was so strong at times that those who didn't come to the altar went out the door, they couldn't stand the power of God. Brother J. J. Williamson, our pastor, conducted the revival under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. At times he would quit preaching and give over and many messages were given and interpreted. One night he fell under the power while giving the altar call and everyone in the church came to the altar except four. God has really been pouring out His Spirit here. I believe I can truthfully say the latter rain is falling. There were about seven filled with the Holy Ghost, nine followed the Lord in water baptism and nine added to the church. This was the first real revival since Brother A. G. Phillips came here preaching holiness and our church was organized.

We have a good Sunday School too. We won the state banner for the month of October and we're working to keep it. We surely appreciate our new pastor and his wife and family; they really consecrated their lives to service for God. Thank God and Brother Whittington for sending him to us. Pray for us that the revival spirit will continue.—Mrs. L. D. Bryars.

BENNETTSVILLE, S. C.—We have just closed a three weeks' revival with Brother S. C. Chambers doing the preaching. The Lord blessed in a wonderful way; the power of God fell in every service.

There were about twenty-two saved, fourteen sanctified, ten filled with the Holy Ghost and fifteen added to the church, and we praise the Lord for all the good that was done.—J. C. Brooks, pastor, Box 441.

MCCALL CREEK, Miss.—We thank the Lord for a good revival that has just closed at the Church of God with Brother Eugene Lambert doing the preaching. Two were saved, two sanctified, four filled with the Holy Ghost and three added to the church. There are some good people here and Brother Lambert is a good evangelist. Pray for us in Mississippi. We expect to make this year the best year for God and the Church.—Pastor, Jim Evans.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—We have just closed a wonderful revival at East Lake Church of God. The power fell and many who were sick were healed. Sister Mabel Branch did most of the preaching. There were fifteen saved, eight sanctified, eight filled with the Holy Ghost and fifteen added to the church. Many times it seemed heaven swung low. Sister Branch is a wonderful preacher. The church is growing and taking on new life fast. We are planning to build a church here. We cover your prayers.—Z. D. Simpson, pastor, 6830 Second Ave., S.

EARL, S. C.—We just closed a wonderful revival at the Church of God at Earl with Brother J. B. Merritt doing the preaching. The saints were encouraged and made to rejoice on account of the presence of the Holy Ghost. God blessed in a wonderful way. The Holy Ghost would come down sometimes and take full charge of the services with messages given out and interpreted. Eight were saved, two sanctified and one filled with the Holy Ghost. Brother and Sister Merritt are surely a blessing to the Church of God. We need more humble men and women like them. Pray for us at Earl, S. C., that we will be a shining light for the Church of God.—Pastor, Curtis Rhoden, Rt. 5, Aiken, S. C.

DREXEL, Fla.—We are in our fourth week of a revival here, Brother Willie

Saunders, pastor. The power of God is falling here. Numbers of nights there was no preaching, the Holy Ghost taking charge. One night one was saved, one sanctified and three filled with the Holy Ghost, which brings to total twenty-six saved, about fifteen sanctified and nine filled with the Holy Ghost. Join us in prayer for this revival.

You in Texas, Louisiana and Alabama who wrote me for meetings, I hardly know what to say yet about coming to your place. You may keep in touch with me. God may lead us your way later. Brother C. E. Gowden, we plan to go to your place later, if you want us. We are sorry we can't come now. And all the rest who have been sending me word to run a meeting for you, we appreciate your interest of a call to your place. We pray and visit every place the Lord leads, small or great. We are going to give our service too. You may reach me at Hudson, Fla., Box 25.—J. C. Cox.

Good Tiding of Great Joy (Continued from page 15)

calls Him "Lord," associated with God, one of the Deity. With lowly birth He rises step by step until He stands as God, the Messiah, the Savior!

Once a great infidel scientist was making a survey of the study of ants, and noticing their activities he desired at once to be able to tell the ant just what he should do to solve his problem. The thought struck him that, "The only way I could communicate a message to that ant would be to become an ant," then, immediately the thought of the incarnation flashed through his mind, and he said, "The only way God could reach and understand man and make him to understand Him was through God becoming man." This scientist accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior, was gloriously saved, and became a great worker for the Lord. Unless the birth at Bethlehem had been the incarnation of Deity it would have called forth no angels' songs, nor would it work any deliverance or bring any joy to men for there could be no salvation.

It is indeed notable that God allowed the angels to reveal to the shepherds this wonderful story that there will be joy to all the world, God condescended to the humble, lowly shepherds, to the meek in heart, to the lowly of earth, to the wise men, to every class of men in every walk of life. The shepherds believed much more readily than the scribes and Jews did later, and they went promptly to worship at the feet of the great gift of God. Truly, we can all worship and praise Him for the good tidings of great joy that came to this world and to us individually, and let us all continually spread the good tidings of great joy to all the people throughout all the world. Amen.



